

**To:** Morin, Jeff[Morin.Jeff@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Hart, Daniel[Hart.Daniel@epa.gov]  
**From:** Davis, Tim  
**Sent:** Thur 8/13/2015 10:36:50 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Water Quality Sample Results (and the problem with late-night postings)

The problem (and this will definitely be my last email with Jeff included today—promise! I don't want him receiving hundreds of unnecessary emails) is that data was "promised" to be on the website yesterday. So, that meant that we "HAD" to get the Colorado data on the website yesterday. As you may recall with Yellowstone, Bridger and other disasters, the very same thing happened, and I got stuck posting things at midnight or later that could have waited in EVERY single case until the next morning.

So, the problems with making these "we'll post it today/tonight" promises are:

1. It is TOTALLY unnecessary to actually put it on the website that night, regardless of who makes the promise; the next morning (when everyone isn't running on fumes!) is fine.

2. The approval chain takes many, many hours (and hundreds of emails). And in this case, it HAD to be approved by David Ostrander himself, and he has WAY better things to be doing than reviewing 2700 rows of an Excel file, etc. And not ONE person caught the fact that the text they wanted me to post was outdated! It was only due to a fortunate call that I was able to place at midnight that Deb noticed (as I was going over it with her) that the 6 long paragraphs were not at all the correct version. I think it was a late-night "forest for the trees" problem (understandable, actually).

3. When it FINALLY gets to me, it's often midnight my time, and if there are any technical issues, I'm completely screwed, as is the entire EPA. It's unbelievably stressful to get these things handed to me (including all the pictures and Excel file that they FORGOT to send me until midnight!) and have to post them and hope that they're all correct. It's incredibly dangerous, because I do NOT know the wording. I barely have time to look for grammatical errors. Also, no one told me which order to place the pictures—or where to put the Excel file, or dozens of other little issues. I had to purely guess, and very fortunately I guessed correctly in every case.

So, I'm super glad that you're requesting an end to these very late-night postings, Danny! They don't suit anyone well. It's not just me; I'm worried about making a mistake, especially when I'm really tired.

Thanks SO much for all your help, both of you!!

--Tim

**Personal Phone/Ex. 6**

**From:** Morin, Jeff  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 2:57 PM  
**To:** Davis, Tim  
**Cc:** Hart, Daniel  
**Subject:** RE: Water Quality Sample Results (and going home quickly to get my cell phone charger)

Why are they obsessing about posting data at **midnight**?

**We recommend** holding the posting of data until morning.

Jeff Morin  
Office of Web Communications  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
w 202-564-6553

**From:** Davis, Tim  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 4:56 PM  
**To:** Morin, Jeff  
**Subject:** RE: Water Quality Sample Results (and going home quickly to get my cell phone charger)

Oh – good! Then I'll go home right now. And I just overheard from Joan that we're going to get some data sets tonight, but it might take 6 hours or more? Guess I'll pick up a book, too, like you

suggested!! ☺ Third straight post-midnight night—who's the lucky dog!! ☺

**From:** Morin, Jeff  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 2:54 PM  
**To:** Davis, Tim  
**Subject:** RE: Water Quality Sample Results (and going home quickly to get my cell phone charger)

Sure.

We're at that stage where no one's paying attention to web.

Jeff Morin  
Office of Web Communications  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
w 202-564-6553

**From:** Davis, Tim  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 4:45 PM  
**To:** Morin, Jeff  
**Subject:** RE: Water Quality Sample Results (and going home quickly to get my cell phone charger)

Yeah, sorry about that! I just shouldn't have responded. Maybe I should have just sent her the link to the "Raiders" video clip. ☺

CRAP—I have to go home quickly and get my cell phone charger!! SUCKS! I definitely needed it super last night, and I'll probably need it again tonight (it's the only number that many people have for me right now). I was so tired at 2:30AM that I must have forgotten to charge it last night! But I'll be back hopefully in 45 minutes, if that's OK...

**From:** Morin, Jeff  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 2:23 PM  
**To:** Davis, Tim  
**Subject:** RE: Water Quality Sample Results (and PDF vs. Excel for the Surface Water Summary Table chart)

Hi Tim, I meant to warn you about this (via my previous emails about **are you here.**)

Don't wade into the PDF issue... we discussed it around here. Data will stay as XL files for now.

Jeff Morin  
Office of Web Communications  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
w 202-564-6553

**From:** Davis, Tim  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 3:15 PM  
**To:** Levine, Carolyn; Morin, Jeff  
**Subject:** RE: Water Quality Sample Results (and PDF vs. Excel for the Surface Water Summary Table chart)

Hi Carolyn,

I know that Jeff is knee-deep in reworking the entire "data" area of the website. And changing the Excel to a PDF would require putting it on an entirely different type of page (although there are work-arounds if needed).

Jeff would definitely be your best bet on this issue.

Thanks!

--Tim

**From:** Levine, Carolyn  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 7:15 AM  
**To:** Davis, Tim; Morin, Jeff  
**Subject:** Fw: Water Quality Sample Results

Hi Tim and Jeff,

This has already been sent out by Region 8 to Congressional contacts, I am covering DC distribution. I notice that the chart is in Excel format. Can this be changed to PDF?? Please let em know asap as I need to distribute.

thanks

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To assess the impacts of the release at the Gold King Mine near Silverton, Colorado, water quality samples were collected at numerous intervals beginning on Aug. 5, 2015. Samples were taken prior to the plume's arrival to establish a baseline for water quality comparisons. Each surface water sample was analyzed for 24 metals, including arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury.

Analysis now shows that water quality for the Animas River from the Silverton, Colo. area to the Durango municipal water intake has returned to pre-event water quality levels. These results are based on validated sampling data collected from Aug. 5 to Aug. 9, 2015.

EPA has shared this data with state, local and tribal officials in Colorado to assist them in their decisions regarding the on-going use of water resources. EPA plans to continue to monitor, analyze and share data for downstream river segments as it becomes available.

The data tables can be found on our website:

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine/epa-statement-colorado-data-gold-king-mine-release>

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine>

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